

There is at the present time no scheduled air service to Moore County. Such service has been provided in the past, but the Moore County Airport is now used only for private operations.

Population

The volume of traffic on a section of roadway is a function of the magnitude and location of the population it serves. An analysis of population is one of the first steps the transportation planner takes. An analysis of past trends allows the planner to estimate future population and the traffic which it will generate with some degree of reliability.

The 1980 population of Moore County was 50,505. This represents an increase of 29.3 percent over the 1970 population, a quite substantial rate of growth. A majority of the population is contained in the three southern townships of Mineral Springs, McNeills, and Sandhills, and most of the recent population growth has occurred there as well.

The state's office of State Budget has estimated the 1985 population to be 54,700, a figure which reflects a slowing but still healthy rate of growth (at 1.6% per year) in the past five years. Population has been projected to reach 71,350 by the year 2005. Table 2 gives population growth trends and projections. Township projections are based on the assumption that the relative growth of the various townships will continue as it has recently, that Mineral Springs, McNeills, and Sandhills will experience the greatest growth.

TABLE 2						
Moore County Population						
Township	Population Trends			Population Projections ¹		
	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005
Carthage	4788	4640	5241	5880	6388	6584
Bensalem	2565	2903	2725	2725	2725	2725
Sheffields	4418	4607	5468	6468	7244	7849
Ritters	2000	2056	2273	2387	2518	2669
Deep River	426	357	348	350	350	350
Greenwood	2058	1934	2175	2262	2352	2447
McNeills	8895	10,221	13,960	16,326	18,463	20,114
Sandhill	5476	6442	9240	11,114	12,607	13,742
Mineral Springs	5419	5092	8007	9996	11,696	12,895
Little River	688	796	1068	1294	1515	1712
County Total	36,733	39,048	50,505	58,802	65,853	71,354
County Annual Growth Rate	-	0.6%	2.6%	1.5%	1.1%	1.6%

¹County projections from Office of State Budget; township projections by NCDOT.